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Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Vol. 26 No. 14

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, March 1, 1962

New Development Here Studied by Planning Board

By HARRY ZUBKOFF

Greenbelt's Advisory Planning Board submitted two formal reports to the city council at its meeting on February 19. Lewis Bernstein, chairman of the board, read the two reports which dealt with the effect on the community of the Bresler proposal to develop properties south and east of Greenbelt Lake and a citizen's request that a sidewalk be installed along Gardenway from Crescent to the inner walkway adjacent to 1-A Gardenway.

Report number 12, on the Bresler proposal, was an interim report which neither accepted nor rejected the development request. After reviewing the history of the proposal, the report listed certain findings and recommendations for the council's consideration. Among the findings, for example, the Planning Board suggested that the developer dedicate some park area, that the city employ architectural controls to regulate the development, and that one parking space per dwelling would not be adequate.

The council discussed at some length the need for new school sites in the areas of Greenbelt to be developed, and the adequacy of present school facilities to absorb an inevitable increase in population. Councilman Champion expressed strong concern for the retention of kindergarten rooms and a library facility. As a result of the discussion, City Manager Charles McDonald was instructed to get in touch with the School Board to determine, if possible, what plans are being made to meet the expansion here.

The Planning Board concluded its report by recommending that before any action is taken, the council should consider the effect upon the tax burden of the expense of paving a road from the point where the developer terminates Lakecrest Road to Crescent Road. The Board also recommended that the council consider the effect of rezoning this parcel upon the applications for rezoning adjoining parcels. Council agreed that continued study of this proposal would be necessary before a decision could be taken.

SIDEWALK REJECTED

The Planning Board rejected the request for a sidewalk in report number 13, on the grounds that this proposal would create unsafe and hazardous conditions.

According to the report, "Construction of the walkway as requested would encourage the use of a pathway leading directly to one of the more hazardous vehicular intersections in the community. This fact more than offsets any safety features that might be added for those pedestrians who choose to walk along Gardenway. The two nearby underpasses were especially designed and constructed to separate vehicular traffic from pedestrian walks. The use of the pedestrian underpasses should be encouraged rather than inviting pedestrian crossings at relatively dangerous intersections."

Louis Lushine, resident of the area involved and visitor at the council meeting, objected to the Board's action and pointed to the hazardous condition caused by snow and ice on the hill leading to the underpasses. Discussion also brought out the fact that the walls

of the underpasses have been defaced by vandals time and again, and many parents hesitate to send their children through the underpasses for this reason. It was agreed that something should be done about new walls for the underpasses made of some rough material which could not be defaced.

City's Anniversary Celebration Planned

By ELAINE SKOLNIK

There's going to be a party and what a party it will be! Over 7,000 guests will be invited, and the celebration is expected to last months and months.

Would you like to come? Well, you're invited. In fact, everyone is invited to GREENBELT'S 25TH BIRTHDAY PARTY.

Planned as a "garden town", Greenbelt started life as a self-governing community. The town's incorporation on June 1, 1937, was the first Council - Manager town government in Maryland history. In October, 1937, Greenbelts' first residents moved in, and immediately they were busy as bees establishing the town's political, economic, and social institutions. Before the year's end, the reenbelt operator, now the Greenbelt News Review, made its bow. The year 1937 also marked the beginnings of the American Legion Post #136, the Parent-Teacher's Association of Center School, the Athletic Club, and the Federal Credit Union. A Mother's Club was formed, and as a result of its early activities, a nursery school and kindergarten were later organized.

Now that the invitations are out, the success of the party is up to all Greenbelters. Our City Council has expressed the hope that all civic groups and interested individuals will participate in the festivities. A committee will be formed by Council in the near future to coordinate all activities. Volunteers please call City Manager McDonald, GR. 4-5454.

Rescue Squad Drive Asks a Penny a Day

Greenbelt's annual Rescue Squad drive will take place this year on Saturdays during the month of March, when volunteers will cover every house in town. The goal is that each family will contribute at least \$3.65, a penny a day, to finance the ambulance service for the coming year.

Stamped, self-addressed envelopes will be provided this year for the first time, so that residents may mail in their check (make out to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.), if they prefer.

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF
GREENBELT, MARYLAND
MARCH 5, 1962

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 19. Minutes of Special Meeting, February 18
4. Petitions and Requests of Citizens
5. Requests of Councilmen for Additions to Agenda
6. Written Communications
7. Ordinance-Second Reading-Payment of Balance of Note (Parking Lot)
8. Ordinance-Second Reading-Payment for Fire Detection System to Youth Center
9. Service Awards
10. Article on Greenbelt's Safety Patrol (Law & Order, February)
11. Discussion of Job Reclassification
12. 25th Anniversary
13. Resolution-Transfer Funds for Overtime (Bus)
14. Authorize Manager to Dispose of City Equipment
15. Approve Payment of Overtime for Department Head
16. Miscellaneous

POLICE NEWS

Attempted theft and vandalism to a car belonging to a resident of 39 Ridge was reported recently. The owner reported that the latch and a side hood were removed, and a slash had been made in the convertible top.

A parent of a young child swore out a warrant against a man who, when shaking a finger at a child, struck the child on the nose.

The manager of the A & P in the Beltway Plaza reported the theft of four hubcaps from his '59 Plymouth Suburban.

A nineteen-year old Greenbelt youth was picked up and charged with being drunk and in the possession of alcoholic beverages after police received a call from a resident stating that there was an apparently drunken person lying on her front lawn.

The coin box in a washing machine in the basement of one of the apartment dwellings in town was broken into and the cash stolen.

B-B guns were blamed for six broken windows at the North End School. Parents were again reminded that possession of these guns is illegal in Greenbelt.

Six forged checks, totalling \$150, were reported by the local Co-op store. The checks were found to contain fictitious names and addresses.

A resident complained about some juveniles who were using bad language. The youths were questioned by police and made to apologize by the police officer on the call.

Vandalism to three cars parked in the vicinity of 52 Crescent was reported recently. One car was missing a tail light and had a cracked mirror. The outside mirror had been broken off from another car. Four hubcaps from a '55 Chevy were also reported stolen from that vicinity.

Marathon Hearing on Zoning Spotlights Greenbelters

By RUSS GREENBAUM

With major zoning decisions on Greenbelt's vacant land yet to be made, the County Commissioners served notice by their decisions at last week's zoning hearing that they intend to back the County Planning Commission down the line. Denying the petitions for R-18 and C-2 zoning, the Commissioners refused even to agree to the suggestion of Garvin and Martin that Parcels 1 and 2 be zoned R-55.

Instead, all parcels for which zoning was requested were approved "as recommended by the Park and Planning Commission" for Rural Residential (RR), which permits no more than four lots to an acre, except Parcel 14 (the Triangle) and Parcel 15 (southwest of the lake) which were approved for R-55, requiring a minimum of 6500-foot lots. Parcel 7 (adjacent to the Lakewood development) was approved for both RR and R-55.

City Manager Charles McDonald appeared before the County Commissioners to protest the attempt of Garvin and Martin to obtain R-55 zoning for Parcels 1 and 2 instead of R-18, as requested in their original petition to council, and to obtain R-18 zoning for Parcel 7 instead of C-2. He proposed that the requested changes be resubmitted to the city council before being heard by the Commissioners. No ruling was made on this request, but the Commissioners ignored the requested changes, basing their decisions on the original petitions.

SPOKESMEN FOR APARTMENTS

The three real estate brokers appearing as witnesses for the Garvin and Martin petitions all spoke with one voice, describing Greenbelt as the perfect location for towering apartment developments, principally because of the

advent of the capital beltway. One witness saw Greenbelt as another Southwest Redevelopment Project, and predicted that the city would eventually be composed of 90 percent apartments. The witnesses also insisted that the Federal Government originally had designed and intended Greenbelt to be a community of multiple-unit dwellings and that the request for apartment zoning was merely following this pattern.

Their testimony also made the points that apartments would take up less space than single-family residences, would be rented quickly, would not lower and might even raise the property value of adjacent homes, and would pay their way in taxes. Cross-examined by Gordon Allen, who volunteered to speak for the opposition, one witness admitted that residential dwellings would sell just as readily as apartments and that he had not seen the original plan of the Greenbelt community.

GIAUQUE CONTENTS

Warren Giauque, representing the Park and Planning Commission, noted that there were presently 2,000 acres of land in the county already zoned for apartments which would take care of the projected growth of the segment of the population which would use apartments. His main contention was that it would be a mistake to disregard planning and go to individual zoning. "Zoning should follow planning, not vice versa," he said. He emphasized that zoning should be based on a comprehensive plan characterized by a basic purpose.

Highlight of the testimony on apartment zoning was a passionate plea made by an attractive young housewife, Mrs. Paul Condon, 11-H Ridge, a resident of about six months. Mrs. Condon spoke feelingly of Greenbelt's "personality," which she said made Greenbelt distinctive and which she did not want to see changed. She referred to one of the witnesses who had mentioned that he lived in University Park, pointedly inquiring why he preferred to live there rather than in an apartment-type community. Her testimony was applauded, one of the few demonstrations by the partisan spectators, who were generally restrained.

While the portion of the hearing devoted to apartment zoning found the Greenbelt citizenry and officials to be a solid body of opposition, the latter part of the hearing dealing with commercial (C-2) zoning for the Triangle saw a battle of citizen versus citizen and even city councilman versus city councilman. Officials representing Lakeside and Lakewood groups testified as witnesses for the Kravitz Company, which proposed to develop the Triangle into a regional shopping center.

WITNESS FOR LAKEWOOD

Richard Pilski, president of the Lakewood Citizens Association and just recently appointed to the City Planning Board, reported that while Lakewood citizens had signed a petition opposing apartment zoning, the executive board of the association had voted to support "the good judgment of the city council" on whatever decision it might make regarding zoning for the Triangle. Pilski stated, however, that he did not consider the Triangle suitable for residential use and that the proposed new shopping center would bring

(Continued on page 4)

Leddick Gets Post in Texas

Warren Leddick, Greenbelt's Superintendent of Recreation, will leave Greenbelt on March 10 for Austin, Texas, where he will assume the post of Assistant Recreation Director. His duties in Austin, a city of 196,000 with a recreation budget of \$611,000, will be to supervise six district supervisors, two municipal golf courses, tennis courts, and two nature and science museums. He will also teach two courses in recreation at the University of Texas.

Leddick came to Greenbelt in November 1956. In his five years with Greenbelt's Recreation Department, he has stressed recreation rather than an all-sports program. Encompassed in his program were activities for the whole family. He was the innovator of the Golden Age Club, Slow Pitch Softball, Women's Slimnastics, and the Chess Club. With interested citizens, he formed the very popular Lassie League. Under his direction, he helped revive the defunct Greenbelt Band and implemented the family plan at the swimming pool.

Leddick, who had an enviable track record himself, emphasized track and physical fitness. Greenbelters will remember the excellent job he did in 1960 coordinating the many activities that marked National Youth Fitness Week. In May of that year, Greenbelt was selected as a model community in the United States to demonstrate what a small town could do for Youth Fitness.

The year 1961 saw Leddick tackling the problem of the transition of programs without a home into a central location - the Youth Center. He was faced with the task of scheduling activities in the new building, and had to cope with many extra problems. Today the building hums with activities involving all age groups.

Greenbelt News Review

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Aftermath

If there is one thing about which all the participants in last week's zoning hearing before the County Commissioners would agree, it is that everyone who was there had a chance to have his full say. The hearing was brilliantly conducted by Commissioner Herbert Reichelt, who throughout ten hours of testimony displayed complete impartiality, remarkable patience, and proper firmness when required. Under his guidance, the occasional dramatic clashes were never allowed to get out of hand, and this hearing moved steadily forward in an orderly manner. When the climax of the hearing finally came, it had all the suspense of a courtroom scene in a stage play.

It appears to us that the principal figures in the sweeping series of decisions that brought to a halt the further encroachment of apartments and shopping centers on Greenbelt were Warren Giauque, representing the unanimous viewpoint of the Park and Planning Commission, and Greenbelt's own Commissioner Frank Lastner. Giauque made it plain that the principal issue was not whether apartments or a shopping center at the Triangle were desirable or needed in Greenbelt, but whether the basic concept of comprehensive regional planning should be junked for the chaos of individual or spot zoning.

Lastner was in the limelight as the commissioner whose opinion on this matter obviously carried most weight. He assumed the role squarely by making the motions that denied the zoning petitions and approved the RR and R-55 zoning recommended by Park and Planning. Without a single flourish, commissioner Lastner performed a service to the community which should never be forgotten, and which will be even more appreciated in the years ahead.

Yet others also played a part in determining the outcome. Certainly the unanimous decision of the city council rejecting zoning for apartments helped substantially on that issue, and its split decision favoring C-2 zoning for the Triangle indicated some doubt as to whether a second shopping center was really wanted or needed. Finally, let us not forget the determined band of citizens, with Gordon Allen as their spokesman, who sat through the entire hearing to make sure their feelings were known.

School of Missions

This Sunday, March 4, the last session of the Community Church Family School of Missions will begin at 5:15 p.m. with a special illustrated talk by Mr. Ellis Hemingway, associate superintendent of the Middle Atlantic Conference. The talk will be followed by a pot luck supper, and the session will conclude with a movie on the Mayan Indians.

GCS Newcomers Meet

The Greenbelt Area delegation to the GCS Congress has invited new residents of Greenbelt and new Co-op members to a "Get Acquainted Evening" on Monday, March 5.

Gratitude

TO THE EDITOR:

Please let me use your column once more to express my gratitude. Not, this time, as one who is promoting an idea but as an ordinary resident of Greenbelt who is glad there is still a chance that life here will continue to be both relaxing and stimulating.

I want to thank all those who found time (no mean trick in the daytime) to attend the hearing in Hyattsville, or who held the fort at home. They have made this second chance possible for the rest of us. No one person could have given us this by himself.

I know that we were not always as effective in our testimony as we would have liked, but more important than the individual victories at the hearing was the total picture of a people deeply and passionately -- and volubly -- interested in the proceedings. This may not have carried the day. Maybe we were just lucky in the bargain, but we may be sure this picture helped our luck.

Next time we may not be so lucky. When that time comes, we'll have to face the odds with what we have. In the meantime, you're all tops in my book.

Gordon Allen

Many Thanks

Warren Leddick is leaving Greenbelt they say.

We are sad to hear that he's going away.

He's been our friend, our helper, our "boy".

To our Golden Age Club meetings he brought much joy.

Always willing to help us wherever he could,

As any good boy for the "old folk" would.

When he says "goodbye" and closes the door--

Not any eye will be dry - and forever more

We'll think of him each time we meet,

And pray that for him life will always be sweet.

Goodbye Warren Leddick our dear, dear friend,

From "old folks" who will love you to the end.

Wherever you go - whatever you do,

May God in His mercy be good to you

And to your dear little family, too.

Freda Dickman
Golden Age Club

Missionary Speaks

The Rev. Lester N. Hunt, an American Baptist missionary to Thailand, will speak at the Greenbelt Baptist Church on Sunday morning, March 4. Mr. Hunt and his wife have done evangelistic and agricultural work among the Animistic Karens of Thailand since 1954.

Landis-MacKenzie

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Landis of Takoma Park announce the engagement on January 25 of their daughter Mezzy to David H. MacKenzie, son of Mrs. Ruth MacKenzie, 10-S Plateau. The date for the wedding has been set for June 16, 1962. The MacKenzies have been residents of Greenbelt since 1942.

Siren Notes

With space in the paper being limited lately, some reports of fire calls have been eliminated. Therefore, I will summarize some of the runs made by the fire-fighting equipment during the last month, confining the reports to the Greenbelt area only.

On February 8 there was a house fire in 4 Gardenway. The fire, which may have been started by children, was confined to a bed and the nearby wall, with damage estimated at about \$25.

About fifty minutes after the first call, firemen responded to a call for a small grass fire in the vicinity of St. Hugh's. Ten minutes later there was another fire, in a trash barrel near the tennis courts.

A Christmas tree had been set on fire.

On the 13th, residents of 44 Ridge were alarmed by smoke from under their building. Firemen found the smoke coming from a heat circulating pump. Damage was estimated at about \$50.

Smoke coming from the vent of a resident's clothes dryer had the equipment on the go on the 14th. There actually was no fire,

Discussion on Parking

Among the items on the city council's massive 23-item agenda last week was a discussion of a number of parking problems in various courts. The joint council-GHI committee had some months earlier reviewed these problems and agreed upon the solutions informally. At last week's meeting, council decided to add four parking spaces in the 2 court of Northway, after which spaces would be assigned to all the residents of the court. A request to extend the sidewalk from 2-A Northway was referred to the city manager for further study.

Council also instructed the manager to remove four parking spaces, two from each end, in the 17 court of Ridge, so that cars parked in garages on both sides of the court could have easy access and egress. At the same time, the manager is to negotiate with GHI to acquire land for four more parking spaces in the 6 court of Hillside.

but in the resident's anxiety, the wrong house number was given to fireboard.

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

6:30 p.m. Training Union
7:30 p.m. Evening Worship

7:30 p.m. Wednesday Midweek Service

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Crescent & Greenhill Reverend S. Jasper Morris, Jr. GR. 4-4040

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

22 Ridge Road

Church Services 8:30 and 11 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Edward H. Bimer, Pastor

MOWATT MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

invites you to

CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 a.m.

Nursery Provided at Service

Lyle E. Harper, pastor
GR. 4-7293



The Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Kenneth Wyatt, Minister

Hillside and Crescent Rds. GR. 4-6171

OUR TWENTY FIFTH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

FRIDAY: 4:00, Fellowship 78 meeting and social.

SUNDAY: Morning Worship at 9:00 and 11:10 a.m. Women's Fellowship Sunday, with the women of the Church conducting both Services ... Church School at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:10 a.m. 5:15, Final Session of Family School of Missions.

Ash Wednesday, March 7: 8:00 p.m. Union Holy Communion Service with the Mowatt Memorial Methodist Church, in the Methodist Church.

Recreation Department announces

new office hours for the convenience

of the public to purchase the Swimming

Pool Family Plan. Hours effective

March 5, 1962.

Applications with proper fee will be accepted.

Monday through Friday 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Family Plan \$20.00 for season
Single Admission Plan \$12.00 for season

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Classified Ads

Classified rates are five cents per word, fifty cents minimum. Ads should be submitted in writing, accompanied by cash payment, to the News Review Office at 15 Parkway not later than 10 p.m. of the Tuesday preceding publication. If accompanied by cash payment, ads may be deposited in the News Review box at the Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association.

CALDWELL'S WASHER SERVICE: All makes expertly repaired. Authorized Whirlpool dealer. GR. 4-5515.

TYPEWRITER REPAIR: Overhaul and cleaning. Portable, standard and electric typewriters. Call Mr. K. Kincius GR. 4-6018. Any time.

TV TROUBLE: Service by Tony Pisano, GR. 4-7841.

TELEVISION & RADIO REPAIRS & SALES: RCA Franchised Dealers - New & Used - Roof Antenna Installations - Car Radio Repairs - Hanyok Bros. Professional Electronic Engineers. GR. 4-6069, GR. 4-6464.

PAINTING - Interior and exterior, Louis B. Neumann, 8-C Research, GR. 4-6357 after 6 p.m.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - Band and Orchestra Olds, King, La Blanc, Gibson, and Martin rentals three months with option to purchase. Equally low rates on new Lester, Hanes, Estey, Starck, and Chickering pianos and Conn and Thomas organs. Many excellent used organs and used pianos from \$100 up. Low down payment, up to three years to pay. Phone c/o Ken Keeney GR. 4-5312 or Phone collect Kenney's Piano & Organ Center 161 West Street, Annapolis, Md. Colonial 3-2628.

TV. SERVICE GR. 4-5366 - Mike Talbot, Also AM, FM, Auto and Hi Fi.

PIANO LESSONS FOR beginners, Carol and Marilyn Morris, GR. 4-5031.

PAINTING --- Interior, exterior, Free estimates, reasonable rates. C. H. Copeland, GR. 4-6953.

FOR SALE: - Studio couch with new slip cover - \$12. GR. 4-6477

FOR SALE: - 16 mm Bell and Howell movie camera. Call GR. 4-5280

FOR SALE: - Sofa - custom slip covers, 2 chairs slip covered, solid walnut tables. Call GR. 4-8438

The Greenbelt Nursery School, Inc. (cooperative) is now accepting registrations for the 1962-63 school year. Three and four year olds are eligible. Call GR. 4-6182 and GR. 4-6060.

FOUND: - One pop gun, vicinity of Center School, last Monday. GR. 4-6182

RIDE WANTED: - To vicinity of 17th and Constitution Ave., N.W. Hours 8 - 4:30. Contact C. Humphreys - 474-7293.

WILL BABY-SIT on Saturday nights. Call GR. 4-6787.

Let the Fire Department's Auxiliary CATER YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS GR. 4-6457.



By ELAINE SKOLNIK Granite 4-6060

Practice makes perfect, and Sid Barnett and Tony Pisano proved this by finishing first in last Friday's North-South duplicate bridge competition, after finishing second in the previous game. Their margin of victory was an astounding 19-1/2 points over runners-up Sam Jacobs and Roy Carriere. In the East-West direction, by way of contrast, only 1 point separated the first 4 teams, with Fran Sanders and Edith Ratzkin first, Louis and Lucille Lushine second, and third place divided between Evelyn and Cliff Simonson and Chester and Margaret Berymin.

Glad to hear that Debbie Mayer, 53-A Crescent, is fit as a fiddle after recently undergoing an appendectomy.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!—Braving the hail and rain, four Greenbelt teen club members lined up in front of the United Typewriter store at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday February 21, in the hope that they would be one of the first to enter when the doors opened the next morning. Their dream was to buy an adding machine worth \$75 for the sum of

CARPENTRY CONTRACTING on apartments and houses - top superintendents and foremen - experienced crew, trucks, and electric tools. No job too large. Donald R. Smith Contractors Corp. Inc. Parkway 5-1379.

INCOME TAX RETURNS PREPARED: - In your home or mine. J. Mousley, 6-Q Hillside, GR. 4-6045.

FOR SALE: - 1952 white Pontiac 4-dr., excellent motor, new tires and battery - \$325. GR. 4-8761.

FOR SALE: - Mahogany buffet, 2 pc. sectional sofa, corner steptable, large attic fan, double bed, spring and mattress - good condition, and miscellaneous furniture. Call 935-2846 after 6 p.m. or weekends. Mrs. John P. Daley - 9603 - 50th Place, College Park.

FOR SALE: - Available for quick occupancy, 2 BR. - Cinderblock, with screened aluminum porch; 2 air-conditioners; window fan; fully equipped kitchen. Monthly charges just \$77.25 include heat, water, taxes, insurance, principal, interest, all major repairs, trash collection, etc. Excellent financing can be arranged. GREENBELT REALTY CO. (Realtors) 151 Centerway, GR. 4-5700.

FOR SALE: - 2-Bedroom Frame END: equipped with tension screens, storm door, etc. Beautifully landscaped with fruit trees, rose bushes. Just \$62. per month includes heat, water PITI, all major repairs, trash collection, etc. GREENBELT REALTY CO. (Realtors) 151 Centerway, GR. 4-5700.

1951 PLYMOUTH: - 2 Door, Radio and Heater, Directional Signals - Perfect Condition - Must SELL - Will Sacrifice, Phone: GR. 4-6854, 12-C Plateau.

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS - Final Clearance - EVERYTHING MUST GO 50% off women's dresses, skirts, slacks, blouses and children's playwear. SHURRS - 31D Ridge - GR. 4-5831

99 cents and turn the computer over to the Teen Club in order to simplify the club's bookkeeping chores. Fred and Bob Schumaker. Kirk McCauley and Larry Ward held tickets 5 and 6. Would they do it again? A resounding "Sure!" was their answer. It was quite an experience sleeping aboard a double decker scenic cruiser, appearing in front of TV cameras, speaking into radio mikes, and posing for photographers.

Sam Schwimer, 45-M Ridge, will be attending the Institute for Management and Personnel at Maxwell Airforce Base, Montgomery, Alabama, for three weeks.

On their recent 13-day cruise to the Caribbean, Dr. and Mrs. James W. McCarl, 9 Forestway, were pleasantly surprised to meet former Greenbelter, Bernard Trattler, while shopping at Bridgetown, Barbados. Trattler was in Barbados on government business. In Puerto Rico, the McCarls had the pleasure of having former Greenbelter, Betty Merryman Longo and her husband, Dr. Ralph Longo, as dinner guests aboard the SS Independence.

It's a boy for Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ullrich, 4-G Crescent. Lawrence Donald was born February 14, weighing 7 lbs. 5 oz. He joins a brother, Charles William.

City treasurer Mabel Kandler attended a meeting of the Maryland branch of the National Association of Finance Officers, held in Annapolis last Friday.

Our sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Walter V. Dutton, 2E Southway, on the loss of Mrs. Dutton's mother recently.

"Very Proud"

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to let the people of Greenbelt know what a pleasure it has been to serve as Superintendent of Recreation for the past five years.

I wish to thank the members of past and present City Councils whom I have served under; chairmen and members of civic organizations and the entire community for their continual support and participation in the entire Recreation Program.

It has been a most fortunate experience to have worked with the excellent facilities the municipality has provided. There are very few communities of this size throughout the United States that can boast of a \$60,000,000 annual budget with a Youth Center and Swimming Pool.

I am very proud to have served you, the People of Greenbelt as Superintendent of Recreation.

The immeasurable experiences I have acquired here in Greenbelt will be most helpful in my new venture as Assistant Director of Recreation in Austin, Texas.

WARREN LEDDICK

Two 4-H Clubbers Win in County Contest

The 4-H Clubs' county-wide annual public speaking contest was held on February 17 in Upper Marlboro. In the first public speaking contest entered by the Greenbelt 4-H Clubs, two of their members received grand championship in their class. These were 11-year-olds Ruth Amberg of the Clover Buds 4-H Club and Vaclav Majer, Jr., of

the Shamrocks 4-H Club who competed in a 9-14 age group. Also participating from Greenbelt were Walter Louk, Bobby Cassels, and Chris Linstrom from the Shamrocks and Elise Geller of the Cloverettes.

MUTUAL INVESTMENT FUNDS

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HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN KINDERGARTEN

(A Christian Day School)

Apply now for enrollment in the 1962-1963 term. For information, write to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 22 Ridge Road (Box 185), Greenbelt, Maryland; or call GR. 4-4477 or GR. 4-9200



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Greenbelt, Md.

City Office Building Site Pros and Cons

By AL SKOLNIK

The pending transfer of GCS-owned land in the center (Parcel 6) to the city has reopened the question of the site of the new municipal office building. At its February 19 meeting, the city council voted to switch the building from the previously-agreed upon tract adjacent to the new fire department and rescue squad building on Crescent to a site, yet undetermined, in the commercial center.

The site near the fire house was originally chosen by the last council because city-owned land was available there and the council saw no particular advantage in having a municipal building in the center. In addition, the site had a 300-foot front and would allow ample room for both expansion and parking. The site was also considered close to the geographical center of town.

However, bids submitted last September by contractors for a building on this site were some \$30,000 above the estimates of the architectural firm of Satterlee and Smith. Part of this excess cost is attributable to the difficulties of construction on the site. Thus, the council is faced with the problem of cutting costs.

An alternative site that has been proposed on many occasions is the area between the bank and the Center School property. One of the obstacles to this site -- the fact that it was not city owned -- has now been removed with the city securing title to Parcel 6.

Another site suggested is the area consisting of the slope behind the statue at the rear of the mall. Now that the city is proposing a roadway to connect the East and West parking lots, the probabilities of further extension of the shopping mall behind the statue look dim. This site, however, is only 90 x 90 and while large enough to accommodate a city building, many feel that it would give the center a hodge-podge, cramped-in, appearance and destroy the broad vista from the mall toward the playing fields.

Similar esthetic objections have been voiced against the site between the bank and the Center School. There is fear that it would be difficult to design a building on the site that will blend in with the present buildings. Also, it is said that a building here would destroy one of the last bits of greenery around the center.

It is admitted that either site in the center would allow little room for expansion, and obviously would not help relieve the parking congestion. On the other hand, a municipal building in the center would likely be more convenient to the citizens. Also, the merchants see some advantage in having the municipal activities retained in the center.

As for the building itself, it is hoped that redesigning the exterior so as to eliminate the proposed exterior glass paneling and decorative trim, together with modifications of the heating and cooling system, will bring costs down to \$120,000. This is the amount that the city has left in its building fund for a municipal office building. There is a question, though, whether these savings may not be offset in part by additional architectural costs necessary in changing the building design to fit the new site.

The council still hopes that the building will consist of two levels, containing about 7,000 square feet. The second level will contain the offices of the city manager, city clerk, city treasurer, and chief of police, plus a small meeting room for about 20 persons.

The lower level will consist primarily of the council chamber.

MARATHON MEETING

(Continued from page 1)

needed employment and tax relief to Greenbelt. William Stevenson, vice president of the Lakeside Association, supported this view, noting that Greenbelt was "starved for shopping facilities" and that he did not believe that the Beltway Plaza was going to develop into a major shopping center.

Both witnesses were challenged by Mrs. Anthony Pisano, 120 Greenhill Road, Lakewood. She questioned whether the Lakewood executive board truly represented the Lakewood residents on this matter and whether it had a right to speak for members of the Association. Mrs. Pisano also questioned Stevenson on whether an actual poll had been made of Lakeside residents. Stevenson admitted that "not all Lakesiders" had been contacted.

Other Greenbelters who testified on behalf of the C-2 petition were William Goldstein, 7-E Southway, a real estate salesman, who said people wanted to buy homes near shopping centers; City Manager McDonald, who said he spoke not for himself but represented the majority vote of city council; and Mayor Francis White, who said he had not expected to be called. Mayor White read a statement from a previous issue of the NEWS REVIEW, which he had submitted to explain the viewpoint of the majority of council. Cross-examined by Councilman Dave Champion, White admitted that the statement had not been formally approved by council but that Champion (who voted against the Triangle commercial zoning) knew about it and had actually helped him to write it.

The County Commissioners refused to allow the name of E. J. Korvette, the big discount department store slated to be the major tenant in the Triangle shopping center, to be mentioned in the hearing. It was pointed out that it would be improper to grant zoning on the basis of the proposed construction of a particular store. The county solicitor also pointed out that the County Commissioners cannot assume that what has been accomplished elsewhere would also be done in the present area.

Warren Giauque raised the point that zoning should be protective and that good planning should not only be concerned with the economic health of the proposed center but other centers in the area. Both the businessman and the local residents could suffer from a "dog-eat-dog" competition he pointed out. Healthy commercial areas, he said, were just as important as healthy residential areas. He argued it was better to have one healthy growing shopping center than two not-so-healthy centers.

Giauque also defended the potential use of the Triangle for residential homes, stating that physical means could be provided for residents of the Triangle to walk to other parts of the community.

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State Committee Picks Lastner to Run Again



FRANK LASTNER

County Commissioner Frank Lastner, along with four other incumbent commissioners, has been selected by the Democratic State Central Committee to run again in the May 15 primary. Lastner is a former 6-term city councilman, serving three terms as mayor. He lives at 19-P Ridge, and moved to Greenbelt in 1938.

One of the most active citizens in Greenbelt civic life, Lastner presently is vice-president of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (his seventh year), and for five years was president of the board of directors of Greenbelt Consumer Services, Inc. He belongs to the American Legion, D. A. V., V.F.W., Knights of Columbus, and the Loyal Order of Moose.

Lastner was born in Baltimore in 1909, and attended the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. For 35 years he was a sales manager in the dental supply and equipment business, but gave it up after being elected to the county commission. He is now associated with a chemical company as a sales director. A veteran of World War II, Lastner was a surgical, medical, X-Ray, and dental technician.

As a member of the county commission since 1954, he serves as commissioner for Health, Welfare, Library, Recreation, and Civil Defense. In addition, he represents Prince Georges County at the Washington Metropolitan Regional Conference, the organization coordinating services in the Washington metropolitan area, and is also on the board of directors of the Maryland Municipal League.

Lastner is president of the Greenbelt Democratic Club, vice-president of the 21st District Democratic Club, and a member of Sasser and Caravan Democratic Clubs.

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